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conquest can be satiated only with human blood? Are they a half civilized community who have learnt no other art, but the art of war? Are these the men for whom the prayer can be offered, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do?" Must it be confessed that they are the American people whose special and high mission it is to give the nations of the earth *Heaven* — a people whose institutions, and education, and laws, and ancestry, and religion, all impose upon them the duty and responsibility of blessing and not cursing the earth? Is it true that with all our benevolent associations — our boasted philanthropy — our interest in the oppressed Greeks and struggling Poles — our cheerful and noble response to the cries of famishing Ireland — our Christian churches and missionary zeal — is it true that we are expending a hundred millions of dollars annually, and sacrificing tens of thousands of our citizens, *to give the Mexicans hell?*

And is it not a proper and respectful question for the thousands in this land whose hearts are burning with indignation on account of this horrible war, to ask the government of the United States how much longer they intend to employ the resources of the country to give the Mexicans hell? Is it not enough that more than twenty thousand of our own citizens have perished in this war, and a vastly greater number of the Mexicans? Is the object for which this war is prosecuted so intimately connected with the welfare and prosperity of our *free* and christian republic, that it must be prosecuted at the sacrifice of every other national interest? A writer of some celebrity, amid many errors, once uttered this truth, "He who is the author of a war, lets loose the whole contagion of hell, and opens a vein that bleeds a nation to death."

R. W. C.

LIFE LOST IN THIS WAR.

FEW inquire in how many ways, or precisely to what extent, war multiplies its victims. No official reports tell any thing like the whole truth. Neither the camp nor the march, neither the battle, the siege nor the hospital can show us the full sweep of its influence on human life. This could be ascertained only by inquiring how many have been *its actual victims*, how far it has *shortened the life* even of those whom it did not destroy, and to what extent it has *prevented the natural growth* of mankind. A full answer to these inquiries would

require a volume, and give a most appalling view of the influence exerted by this custom on the general life of our race.

All these points of inquiry are involved in our present war ; but, we have not the means of ascertaining even the number of its actual victims. The reports of killed and wounded do not include probably one fourth of all that have perished, to say nothing of the thousands and ten thousands that have returned with constitutions broken beyond recovery, or with diseases that will soon carry them to their graves. We may safely assume, that the life of returned volunteers will be shortened an average of twenty years ; and in this way will come from the war an indefinite, incalculable waste of life.

The number of its immediate victims, however, is already far greater than most people suspect, or would readily believe. It was credibly reported, several months ago, that " the officers of the army, and those who have the best means of ascertaining the loss sustained by us since the commencement of the Mexican war, put it down at 20,000 men whose bodies mingle with the soil of Mexico. The sacrifice of life, at the present time is estimated at *fifty soldiers a day !* " The havoc of siege or battle gives scarce any clue to the whole number of its victims. In some cases one third of the reinforcements have died before seeing the enemy, or crossing the Rio Grande ! From the effects of hardship, exposure and disease, more than half of some battalions have disappeared in the elapse of a few short months ; and the progress of the war has made it necessary sometimes to merge several companies and even regiments in one. We have carefully watched the return of volunteers ; and in no case have we heard of *more* than sixty per cent of the original number coming back, while two-thirds, five-sixths, and even nine-tenths of some detachments have left their bones to bleach in Mexico !

The result is startling enough. Take the lowest percentage of these losses ; and, if we have sent to the war only 70,000 troops in all, — we have more ; first, 10,000 regular army, next 50,000 volunteers, many of them re-enlisted, and then 10,000 new regular regiments, besides large numbers sent out within the last six or eight months, — there will be found to have already perished, in one way and another, some 30,000 of our own countrymen ! Nor does even this number, though much beyond the common estimate, reach, we fear, the sum total of its victims in eighteen months — nearly *sixty a day* on our side alone !

Let us subjoin a few more facts in confirmation of this fearful estimate. A regiment which left Tennessee with 900 men in the vigor of health, returned from Mexico to New Orleans in one year with

only 350 ; a loss of nearly fifty a month in one regiment ! A Louisiana regiment, which had left their homes a few months before, 1,000 strong, could not in August muster on parade at Tampico more than 200 ; three-fourths gone ! Still worse with a regiment from South Carolina, of whose 800 or 900 original rank and file, only 135 remained after the battle of Cherubusco, and but 70 or 80 survived to join in the capture of Mexico ; nine-tenths lost in about six months ! The work of death, by other and far more fatal agencies than the sword, has all along been going on in Mexico with results truly appalling. Sergeant Reed, writing to Boston from Vera Cruz, under date of Oct. 18, gives "a doleful account of the condition of the Massachusetts regiment. Their food is scanty ; many are sick in the hospital ; and the regiment is in a fair way to be disbanded." On the first of November the city of Tampico was represented as so very unhealthy, that of the Illinois battalion, "one company lost its captain and twenty privates in two months, and other companies could not turn out more than twelve or fifteen men fit for active service." The *living* victims of the war are scattered so thickly along its pathway, that a late New Haven (Ct.) paper, on the authority of a gentleman from New Orleans, says "There are 680 sick soldiers in *one* hospital alone in that city ! Most of them are those who have returned from Mexico, where, although they did not meet the enemy in mortal combat, they contracted diseases which will bring them to their graves through long suffering, and more painfully than if they had fallen by the hand of the Mexicans." C.

ITEMS OF EXPENSE IN THIS WAR.

TAKE a few specimens to show how the present war, very like all wars, comes to cost so much. When Col. Doniphan's regiment of 1000 men returned home, "they received each \$650 for his pay, horses, and other things and his land-scrip besides, so that the expedition cost in these particulars \$750,000, three-fourths of a million."

A Specimen of War-Economy.—"The barque Agnes, Capt. Cutter, cleared at Baltimore on the first of May last for Vera Cruz, with a cargo of 320 tons of Cumberland coal. She arrived in safety at her port of destination, where it was found that the coal was not wanted. The vessel was, however, suffered to remain sixty days in the harbor of Vera Cruz on demurrage, at the end of which time she was ordered to Baltimore with her cargo. On reaching Baltimore, she was ordered to this port, (Boston,) where she arrived on Thursday last with her entire cargo, not having broken bulk since she left Baltimore in May last. Here the cargo was sold for the most it would bring, probaly not over \$6 per ton. This coal cost the government \$32 per ton, landed at this port ; thus making a